

Welcome and Introduction

FY 2007 Initial Grantee Meeting

December 5 - 7, 2007

San Diego, California



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Opening Session Agenda

- Review Meeting Agenda and Introduce Staff
- Goals
- Why Emergency Management Plans Are Critical
- What We Want Schools To Do
- Available Resources



Agenda: December 5, 2007

8:15–9:00 Welcome and Introduction to the Conference

9:00–10:00 *Sharing Information (FERPA)*

10:15–11:15 **Green Track:** Performance Reporting, Evaluation, Government Performance and Results Act Measures (GPRA), and Site Visits

Blue Track: National Incident Management System (NIMS)

11:30–1:00 *Lunch & Plenary Presentation*

1:15–2:15 **Green Track:** National Incident Management System (NIMS)

Blue Track: Performance Reporting, Evaluation, Government Performance and Results Act Measures (GPRA), and Site Visits

2:30–4:00 *Grant Administration*

4:15–5:00 *Meet REMS Federal Project Officers*



Agenda: December 6, 2007

8:00–8:20 *Recap of Day 1 and Overview of Day 2 (Plenary)*

8:30–10:00 **Green Track** (Part 1): Prevention-Mitigation

8:30–10:30 **Blue Track**: Preparedness

10:00–10:30 **Green Track** (Part 2): TA Services

10:45–12:15 **Green Track** (Part 1): Preparedness

Blue Track (Part 1): Prevention-Mitigation

12:30–2:00 *Lunch & Plenary Panel*

2:15–2:45 **Green Track** (Part 2): Preparedness

Blue Track (Part 2): TA Services

3:00–4:30 **Green Track**: Response

Blue Track: Recovery



Agenda: December 7, 2007

8:00–8:30 *Recap of Day 2 and Overview of Day 3*

8:45–10:15 **Green Track:** Recovery

Blue Track: Response

10:30–11:30 *One Grantee's Story: Developing an Emergency Management Plan from Start to Finish*

11:30–12:00 *Questions & Answers, Certificate Distribution and Wrap-up*



Goals of the Meeting

- Provide attendees with practical, accurate and timely information regarding Emergency Management for schools.
- Provide attendees with skills necessary to successfully implement their Emergency Management Plans.
- Emphasize the importance of community collaborations to support emergency planning.
- Motivate attendees to review and, where appropriate, revise their existing Emergency Management Plans.



Who are the 2007 REMS grantees?

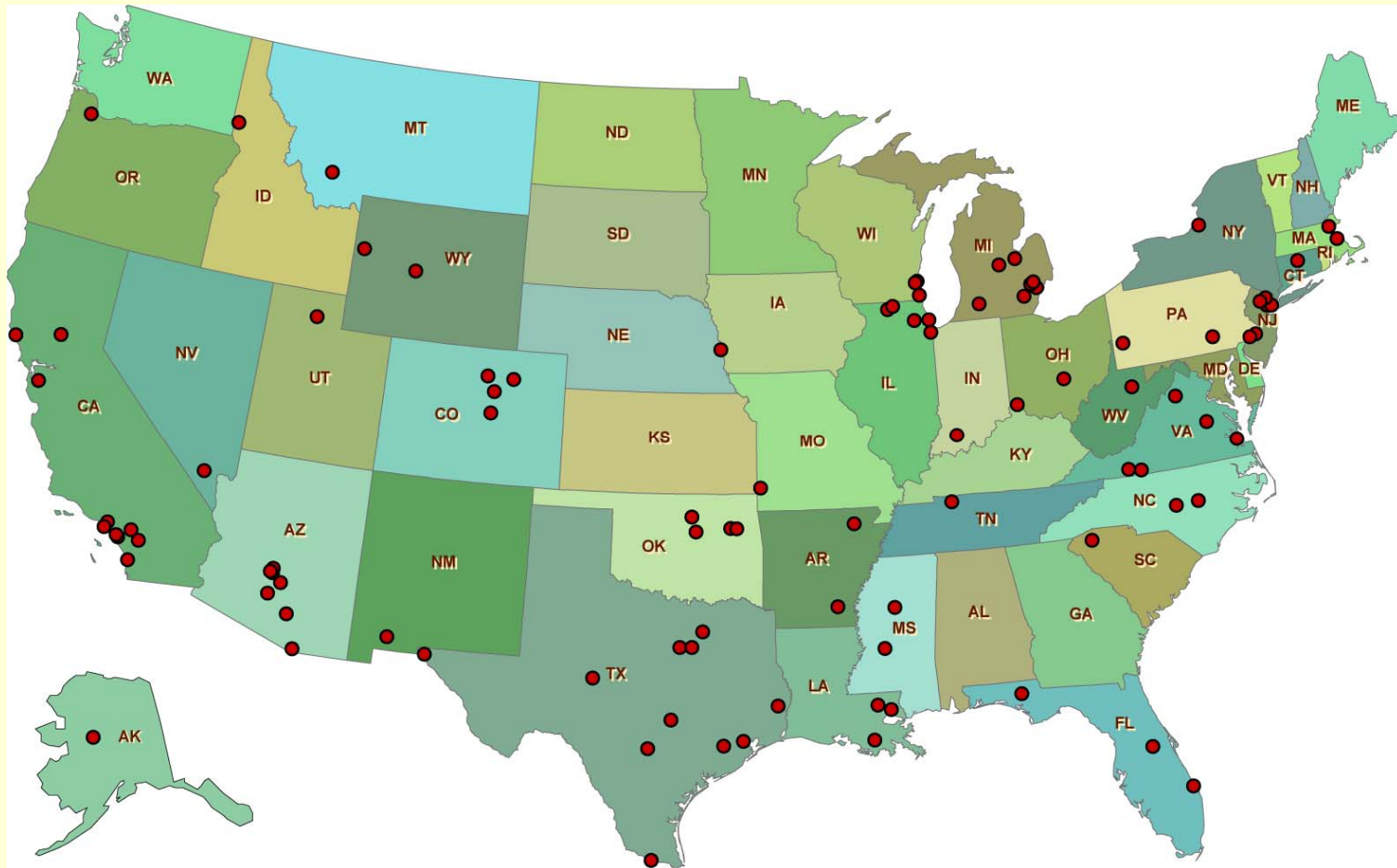


Summary of REMS 2007 Cohort

- 98 grantees funded across 32 U.S. States
- More than \$26 million in funding released to grantees (LEAs)
- More than 5,353 schools and 3,349,394 students impacted



FY 2007 Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Program Sites (n=98)



Range in District Size and Geographic Area

Cohort comprised of small, medium, and large districts, with:

- 49 small districts of 1 to 20 school sites (50%)
- 26 medium districts of 21 to 75 school sites (27%)
- 23 large districts of 75+ school sites (23%)

Number of school sites

- Ranges from 1 to 1,000 school sites; median school sites =23

Enrolled student population

- Ranges from 246 (Twin Bridges, MT) to 900,000 (Los Angeles, CA); median enrollment = 12,257

Geographic area covered (square miles)

- Ranges from 10 (Reading, MA) to 7,200 (Riverside County, CA) square miles



Partnership Involvement

- Percent of Districts with Partnerships in the Following Areas:
 - 93% with City or County Governments
 - 90% with Fire
 - 94% with Medical, Health, or Mental Health Agencies
 - 67% with Emergency Management Offices
 - 20% with the Red Cross
 - 17% with Private and Charter Schools
 - 42% with other entities
 - (NOTE: In addition, all REMS grantees indicated partnerships with police through submission of the requisite partner agreement forms in the application.)
- Partnerships established with 975 external collaborating organizations
- More than 90% of districts with partners across three or more key areas (e.g., law enforcement, government, mental health)
- More than three-quarters (77%) of districts with core partnerships involving both first-responders and local government



Districts Identified the Following Risks from Natural Hazards (n=98)

Flash Flood	66	67%
Pandemic Flu	53	54%
Tornado	47	48%
Wild Fires	33	34%
Blizzard	31	32%
Earthquake	30	31%
Hurricane	27	28%
Lightning	19	19%

■ Nearly one-quarter of districts (24%) located within high-threat, high-density urban areas, as designated under the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)



Districts Identified the Following Man-Made Hazards (n=98)

Terrorism	69	70%
Highway Transportation Hub	68	69%
Industrial Gases and Chemicals	58	59%
Airports	57	58%
Railway	44	45%
Bomb Threats	40	41%
Shooting/Guns	37	38%
Gangs	37	38%
EPA Hazmat Locations	35	36%
Gas Leaks	29	30%
Petro-Chemical Industry	23	23%
Suicide	20	20%
International Borders, Port Cities, Nuclear Power Plants	<20	<20%



Why should a school have an emergency management plan?



Stuff Happens!

And we either plan to deal with it when it happens and thereby help minimize its consequences, or we let it take control and steer us in directions we may not want to go!



Stuff Happens!

- Every day!
- Along a continuum!
- In almost every district!
- To a variety of different populations (e.g., students/faculty)!
- When least expected!



Recent Events

- **November 2007:** An 18-year old student opened fire at his High School in Finland killing seven students, the Principal, and himself.
- **October 2007:** A student registered at the Cleveland Metropolitan School District's SuccessTech Academy shot four people and then killed himself.
- **April 2007:** A Virginia Tech student shot and killed 32 people on campus (including himself). In addition, 27 students and staff members were physically injured as a result of the incident.
- **March 2007:** A 14-year old Shikellamy School District [PA] student admitted in court that she threatened to kill specific people at Shikellamy High School and Sunbury Middle School.
- **March 2007:** A student trying to reconcile with his girl friend in a school parking lot in Clare, Michigan pulled a gun from his backpack and shot his girlfriend four times. He then committed suicide. It was the second suicide in the rural community in a month.



Other Events

- **September 2007:** Schools across southern California were closed due to wildfires.
- **May 2007:** A tornado in Greensburg, Kansas killed approximately 8 people and caused major damage to the High School facility.
- **April 2007:** Numerous schools and colleges in VA and MD received bomb threats and threats of attacks similar to the one at Virginia Tech.
- **March 2007:** A 15-year old Timber Creek HS [FL] baseball player went into cardiac arrest during a game. People on-site started CPR and an Automatic External Defibrillator was brought in, resulting in a full recovery for the student.
- **February 2007:** The El Paso ES in Derby, Kansas went into lock down while police with guns drawn apprehended a suspect across the street from the school. The police did not notify the school of their actions.
- **January 2007:** An 84-year old woman in Shiloh, Illinois drove her car through a cafeteria wall killing an 8-year old student and injuring two others.

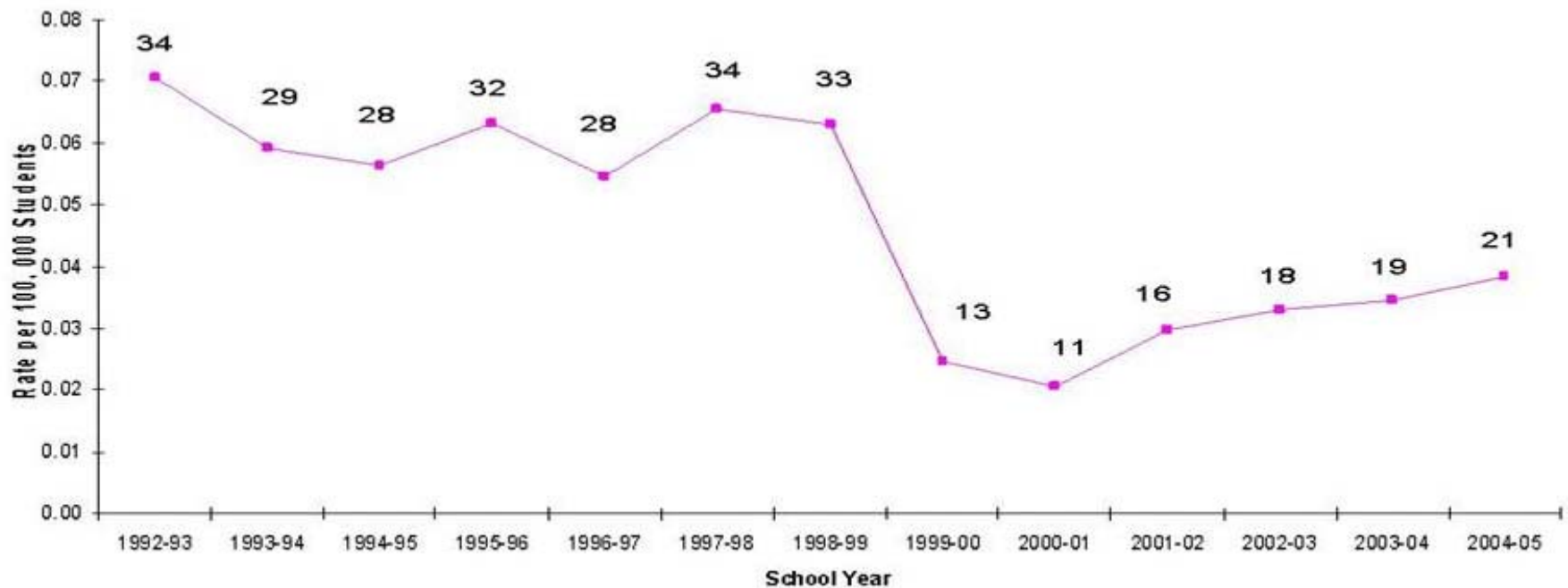


Why Have a Plan?

- 4.2 million youth have asthma attacks (some in schools)
- 4 million children and adolescents are injured at school
- 582,800 incidents of violent crime in school (2004)
- 200,000 playground injuries
- 107,400 incidents of serious violent crime (2004)
- 1,285 suicides (age 15-18) in community (2003-2004)
- 51,000 students hurt on school buses (2001-2003)
- 36,000 chemical exposures in schools (2003)
- 21 students homicide victims in school, and 1,437 in community (2004-2005)



Figure 1. Number and rate of school-associated homicides among youth ages 5-18: 1992-2005



The most recent data from the CDC's School-Associated Violent Death Study (SAVD) are shown in Figure 1. These data are considered preliminary until interviews with law enforcement and school officials are complete. Although the number of homicides to youth ages 5-18 has increased from a low of 11 in 2000-2001 to 21 in 2004/2005, this increase is not statistically significant. Overall, the number of school-associated violent deaths of youth ages 5-18 has declined since the beginning of the study. Nonetheless, the persistence of the problem and the pattern observed in recent years underscores the ongoing need for comprehensive prevention strategies.



Why Have a Plan?

Basic Statistics:

There is ample opportunity for incidents of all sorts to occur.

53 million students X 180 school days =
about 9.5 billion student
school days

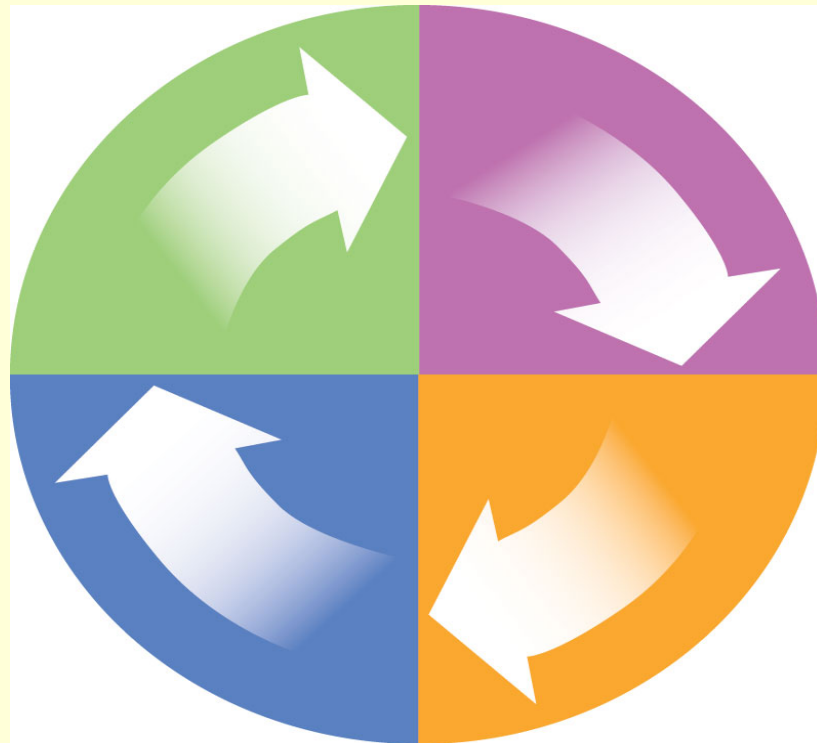


What do we want school districts to do?



What do we want school districts to do?

- Have an Emergency Management Plan that addresses the four phases of Emergency Management!



What do we want school districts to do?

- Have an emergency management plan that takes an “all-hazards” approach.

High Base Rate Incidents	Low Base Rate Incidents
Low Impact	High Impact
Bullying	Intruders
Minor Accidents	Weapons / Guns
Fighting (without injury)	Assault with Injury
Automobile Related Issues	Homicides
Drug Possession	Chemical Accidents



Have A School Emergency Management Plan That:

- Is developed collaboratively with community partners.
- Is based upon sound data, information, and assessment [risk, vulnerability, consequence].
- Is practiced on a regular basis.
- Includes command structure coordinated with first responders [ICS], and aligns with the National Incident Management System.



Have A School Emergency Management Plan That:

- Addresses “special needs” students.
- Is tailored to conditions of individual schools and offices.
- Addresses “Emerging Issues” such as Influenza Pandemic.
- Is continually reviewed and updated.



Key Lessons Learned

1. Not everything is costly!

- Use existing data sources to assess risk.
- Use existing expertise to assess vulnerabilities.
- Use community partners to expand options for services.
- Take advantage of what is on credible Web sites.
- Improve efficiency by collaborating / sharing [building plans, communication needs] with community partners.
- Use community resources to expand drills.



Key Lessons Learned

2. If something could go wrong, it will; anticipate and plan for:
 - Key staff not being present at time of emergency.
 - Communications equipment not working.
 - Evacuation site not being available, or not suitable on day it is needed.
 - Multiple events to happen concurrently.



Key Lessons Learned

3. Everyone has value. Do not exclude anyone in the overall process.
 - Do not forget the school secretary, custodian, teachers aides, office workers, nurses, parents, students, and food service workers.
4. Stuff happens in places other than school buildings.
 - Do not forget buses, offices, alternative schools and school sponsored trips and events.
5. Keep it as simple [but comprehensive] as possible!
 - Flip charts are not comprehensive emergency plans, they are only part of a plan.



Key Lessons Learned

6. Every school has resources that can be used to assist in the development / refinement / improvement of their emergency plan.

- Photo club to take photos of schools for first responders.
- Drama club to assist in drills.
- Nurses / SROs that are trained in first aid.
- Computer expertise to assist in designing procedures for tracking students, communicating with parents.
- Connections with parents and parent groups.

7. Provide key players with detailed information about the plan and about the schools.



Key Lessons Learned

8. It takes a village to develop an effective emergency management plan. If you go it alone you will fail! Every school needs to coordinate with:
 - All first responders
 - Health and Mental Health Officials
 - Other Non-public schools
9. Review - Revise - Review on a regular basis.
10. In order to be effective, plans have to be practiced with community partners.



Available Resources

- Training
 - *Emergency Management for Schools*
- Technical Assistance Center
- Publications
 - Newsletters
 - Lessons Learned
 - Helpful Hints



Available Resources

- U.S. Department of Education's Emergency Planning Web site
 - www.ed.gov/emergencyplan
- Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance (TA) Center
 - <http://rem.ed.gov/>
- The School Preparedness Virtual Town Hall
 - <http://www.vodium.com/goto/dhs/schoolprep.asp>.
- *Practical Information on Crisis Planning: A Guide for Schools and Communities*

